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EXAMINER	
NGUYEN BA, PAUL H	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2176	

DATE MAILED: 01/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/757,342	FERLITSCH ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Paul Nguyen-Ba	2176	

-- The MAILING DATE f this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *26 July 2004*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-26* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-26* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant

1. This action is responsive to Applicant's Amendment, filed on July 26, 2004.

2. Claims 1-26 are currently pending. Claims 1, 13, 18, 19, 25, and 26 are independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1, 3-5, 7-9, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kreitman et al. ("Kreitman"), U.S. Patent No. 5,303,388.

Independent Claim 1

Kreitman discloses a method for editing computer documents through the use of an icon in a graphical user interface operating on a computing device comprising a display, a processing unit and an input device (see Abstract), said method comprising:

displaying an icon on said display, wherein said icon represents a document (col. 1, lines 11-17), said icon comprising

at least one three-dimensional object image (see Figs. 3-10B), *representing at least one document page* (col. 3, lines 37-60 → icon depicts an object such as a program, file, or document, etc.), *each of said at least one object images having at least one edge* (see Figs. 3-10B; col. 4, lines 43-45), and

at least one active region on each of said object images, said active region capable of activating a function in response to user input through said input device (col. 6, lines 1-5; see Fig. 7 → "front face" is the active region of the 3D icon); and

activating a document editing function in response to a user input on said at least one active region (Abstract; col. 3, lines 37-60→ selecting the image representing the program, file, or document by an input device activates the function).

Claim 3

Kreitman further discloses the method wherein *said three-dimensional object image comprises a reduced image of said document page* (see Figs. 3-9B; col. 3, lines 45-60 → reduced image corresponds to the type of object being represented by the icon).

Claims 4, 5, 7, and 15

Kreitman further discloses the method wherein said three-dimensional object image comprises a page image (i.e. "face" of the icon cube) comprising descriptive portions of said document page and a page image displayable from each object image, said page image displaying recognizable elements of a document page represented by the object image to which said page image is associated (col. 4, lines 14-26 → a face of the icon can comprise a description of the application program used to create the text document represented by the image; the faces

of the icon comprise display information about the object, such as its size, its creator, appropriate copyright and patent notices, the last date on which document was modified, etc.).

Claims 8 and 9

Kreitman further discloses the method wherein said three-dimensional object image comprises a page image (i.e. "face") *comprising a document and page property sheet* (col. 4, lines 14-26 → the faces of the icon comprises display information about the object, such as its size, its creator, appropriate copyright and patent notices, the last date on which document was modified, etc.).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 2, 10-12, 14, 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kreitman et al. ("Kreitman"), U.S. Patent No. 5,303,388, in view of Hahn et al. ("Hahn"), U.S. Patent No. 5,751,287.

Claims 2 and 14

Kreitman discloses the method of using a menu bar capable of activating a function in response to user input (col. 4, lines 51-66 *et seq.*) with respect to claim 1 discussed above, but does not specifically disclose the method wherein said icon further comprises at least one tab

having at least one active tab region capable of activating a function in response to user input through said input device.

However, Hahn discloses folder documents with icons comprising label tabs having at least one active tab region capable of activating a function in response to user input through said input device (see Abstract and Figs. 10-12B; col.) for the purpose of providing a graphical user interface that presents the user with an easy and efficient system for manipulating and organizing documents in a computer system (col. 2, lines 43-45).

Since Kreitman and Hahn are both from the same field of endeavor, the purposes disclosed by Hahn would have been recognized in the pertinent art of Kreitman. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the teaching of Kreitman with the teachings of Hahn to include label tabs having at least one active tab region capable of activating a function in response to user input through said input device for the purpose of providing a graphical user interface that presents the user with an easy and efficient system for manipulating and organizing documents in a computer system.

Claim 10

Kreitman discloses the method for manipulating computer documents through the use of an icon in a graphical user interface with respect to claim 1 discussed above, but does not specifically disclose method wherein said icon further comprises a print setting sheet.

However, Hahn discloses a print setting sheet (see Figs. 13A and 13B; col. 10, lines 7-34) for the purpose of providing a graphical user interface that presents the user with an easy and efficient system for printing documents in a computer system.

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the teaching of Kreitman with the teachings of Hahn to include a print setting sheet (see Figs. 13A and 13B; col. 10, lines 7-34) for the purpose of providing a graphical user interface that presents the user with an easy and efficient system for printing documents in a computer system.

Claims 11, 12, and 17

Kreitman does not specifically disclose the methods wherein said icon further comprises page scrolling functionality and wherein said icon further comprises the ability to represent a plurality of page ranges with independent scrolling controls.

However, Hahn discloses page scrolling functionality with the ability to represent a plurality of page ranges with independent scrolling controls (see Figs. 4, 10, 16) for the purpose of providing a graphical user interface that presents the user with an easy and efficient system for manipulating and organizing documents in a computer system.

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the teaching of Kreitman with the teachings of Hahn to include page scrolling functionality with the ability to represent a plurality of page ranges with independent scrolling controls (see Figs. 4, 10, 16) for the purpose of providing a graphical user interface that presents the user with an easy and efficient system for manipulating and organizing documents in a computer system.

Claim 16

Kreitman does not specifically disclose the method of wherein said page images may be dragged and dropped to effectuate document page manipulation functions.

However, Hahn discloses the method wherein icons, folders, images, etc. may be dragged and dropped (col. 11, lines 1-18 *et seq.*) for the purpose of providing a graphical user interface that presents the user with an easy and efficient system for manipulating and organizing documents in a computer system.

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the teaching of Kreitman with the teachings of Hahn to include the method wherein icons, folders, images, etc. may be dragged and dropped for the purpose of providing a graphical user interface that presents the user with an easy and efficient system for manipulating and organizing documents in a computer system.

7. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kreitman et al. ("Kreitman"), U.S. Patent No. 5,303,388, in view of Microsoft ® Windows NT, version 4.0 ("Microsoft"), © 1981-1999 Microsoft Corp.

Claim 6

Kreitman further discloses the method wherein said three-dimensional object image comprises a page image (i.e. "face") *comprising a document and page property sheet* (col. 4, lines 14-26 → the faces of the icon comprises display information about the object, such as its size, its creator, appropriate copyright and patent notices, the last date on which document was modified, etc.), but does not specifically disclose a summary of information contained on said document page.

However, Microsoft discloses a summary of information contained on a document page (pg. 4) for the purpose of providing a graphical user interface that presents the user with an easy and efficient system for accessing information regarding documents in a computer system.

Since Kreitman and Microsoft are both from the same field of endeavor, the purposes disclosed by Microsoft would have been recognized in the pertinent art of Kreitman. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the teaching of Kreitman with the teachings of Microsoft to include a summary of information contained on a document page (pg. 4) for the purpose of providing a graphical user interface that presents the user with an easy and efficient system for accessing information regarding documents in a computer system.

8. Claims 13, 18, 19, 22, 25, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kreitman et al. ("Kreitman"), U.S. Patent No. 5,303,388, in view of Lucas et al. ("Lucas"), U.S. Patent No. 5,905,992, in further view of Coleman et al. ("Coleman"), U.S. Patent No. 6,262,732.

Independent Claims 13, 18, 19, 25, and 26 and Claim 22

Kreitman disclose a method, apparatus, computer-readable medium, and computer data signal for manipulating computer documents through the use of an icon in a graphical user interface operating on a computing device comprising a display, a processing unit and an input device (see Abstract, Summary, and col. 2, lines 65 *et seq.*) with respect to independent claim 1 above. Kreitman further discloses displaying a function bar proximal to said series of object

images wherein said object images, said page images and said function bar comprise active regions which activate functions upon user input (Figs. 6 and 7; col. 4, lines 51-66 *et seq.* → menu bar is in proximity to the object images and is an active region).

Kreitman does not specifically disclose a series of three-dimensional object images having a face and at least one edge, said images being arranged in overlapping, adjacent, successive order wherein portions of each of said edges are visible while said object images are arranged in said order, each of said object images representing a page in a document.

However, Lucas discloses a document display system such that documents are arranged in overlapping, adjacent, successive order along a strand path wherein portions of each of said edges are visible while said object images are arranged in said order, each of said object images representing a page in a document and wherein multiple sets of edges are arranged to represent multiple page ranges of a document (see Abstract and Figs. 1-3) for the purpose of allowing users to easily manipulate documents in an environment like the real world of the desktop, where documents are not hidden inside containers (col. 1, lines 36-40).

Since Kreitman and Lucas are both from the same field of endeavor, the purposes disclosed by Lucas would have been recognized in the pertinent art of Kreitman. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the teaching of Kreitman with the teachings of Lucas to include images arranged in overlapping, adjacent, successive order along a strand path wherein portions of each of said edges are visible while said object images are arranged in said order, each of said object images representing a page in a document for the purpose of allowing users to easily manipulate

documents in an environment like the real world of the desktop, where documents are not hidden inside containers.

Kreitman, in view of Lucas, do not specifically disclose each of said object images being associated with a different selectively displayable page image. However, Coleman discloses a method and apparatus from managing and navigating within stacks of document pages wherein a multi-page document is depicted by an icon representation of a stack of pages. Additional functions are disclosed such as adding one or more pages to the document, removing a page from the stack, and adding annotations to a page (see Abstract and Figs. 2-6).

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Kreitman, in view of Lucas, with the teachings of Coleman to include object images being associated with different selectively displayable page images for the purpose of managing and navigating within stacks of document pages (see Title).

9. Claims 20, 21, 23, and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kreitman et al. ("Kreitman"), U.S. Patent No. 5,303,388, in view of Lucas et al. ("Lucas"), U.S. Patent No. 5,905,992, in further view of Hahn et al. ("Hahn"), U.S. Patent No. 5,751,287.

Claims 20 and 21

Kreitman, in view of Lucas, does not specifically disclose the apparatus comprising a scroll object image and slidable scroll bar for scrolling document pages into representation by said object images.

However, Hahn discloses page scrolling functionality with a slidable scroll bar and scroll object image (see Figs. 4, 10, 16) for the purpose of providing a graphical user interface that presents the user with an easy and efficient system for manipulating and organizing documents in a computer system.

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the teaching of Kreitman with the teachings of Hahn to include scroll object image and slidable scroll bar for scrolling document pages into representation by said object images for the purpose of providing a graphical user interface that presents the user with an easy and efficient system for manipulating and organizing documents in a computer system.

Claim 23

Kreitman discloses the apparatus of claim 19 further comprising *page images* (i.e. "faces" of the icon cube) *related to each of said object image edges, said page images representing a page of said document which is represented by the corresponding object image* (col. 4, lines 14-26 → a face of the icon can comprise a description of the application program used to create the text document represented by the image; the faces of the icon comprise display information about the object, such as its size, its creator, appropriate copyright and patent notices, the last date on which document was modified, etc.).

Claim 24

Kreitman, does not specifically disclose the apparatus of claim 23 wherein said page images may be arranged in an adjacent series configuration.

However, Lucas discloses a document display system such that documents are arranged in overlapping, adjacent, successive order along a strand path wherein portions of each of said edges are visible while said object images are arranged in said order, each of said object images representing a page in a document and wherein multiple sets of edges are arranged to represent multiple page ranges of a document (see Abstract and Figs. 1-3) for the purpose of allowing users to easily manipulate documents in an environment like the real world of the desktop, where documents are not hidden inside containers (col. 1, lines 36-40).

Since Kreitman and Lucas are both from the same field of endeavor, the purposes disclosed by Lucas would have been recognized in the pertinent art of Kreitman. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the teaching of Kreitman with the teachings of Lucas to include images arranged in overlapping, adjacent, successive order along a strand path wherein portions of each of said edges are visible while said object images are arranged in said order, each of said object images representing a page in a document for the purpose of allowing users to easily manipulate documents in an environment like the real world of the desktop, where documents are not hidden inside containers.

Response to Arguments

10. Applicant's arguments filed July 26, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

It is noted by Examiner that claim 1 has been amended to more particularly point out that selection of an active region will activate a document editing function, which performs editing of

a document rather than simple document manipulation. However, giving claim 1 its broadest reasonable interpretation without reading limitations of the specification into the claim, Examiner maintains that claim 1 was anticipated by Kreitman. Kreitman teaches an "Edit" function that is activated in response to user input for deleting, copying, and pasting data within a an active file (see col. 4 lines 62-63).

Applicant further contends that the cited prior art references and combinations thereof do not teach an icon wherein "each of said object images representing a page in a document..." Examiner respectfully disagrees. Kreitman teaches representing editable sub-elements such as Application Name, Date, Size, Kind, etc. (see Fig. 6). However, these sub-elements are not limiting. Kreitman teaches that the icon can be used to allow the user to display different types of information about the document object and/or additional information about the document object itself (col. 3 lines 54-60). The 6 possible object image faces (5 of which are used) comprising the 3D icon may each represent a particular page or information about a particular page in the document. If the entire document consists of only a singular page, then all object image faces will represent that singular documents page. Kreitman further allows manipulation, organization, and editing of document pages and other sub-elements by activating the "Edit" function in response to user input (see col. 4 lines 62-63).

11. Applicant's argument with respect to claim 18 has been considered but is moot in view of the new ground of rejection.

Conclusion

12. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul Nguyen-Ba whose telephone number is (571) 272-4094. The examiner can normally be reached on 10 am - 6:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Feild can be reached on (571) 272-4090. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PNB

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